



The Gospel parable of the Ten Bridesmaids this week invited us to consider how we can 'be ready' in our hearts by filling them with love, peace and joy.

A lovely reflection on our Caritas work of helping others is shared above from one of our KS1 students.

Year 1 have enjoyed a sunny November morning at Rye Meads Nature Reserve. The students told me they had really enjoyed this and had even been to a secret garden!

Thank you for your support for Children in Need and NSPCC this week, too.

Mrs A-M Black

"In our family, when we are not intrusive and ask 'May I' ... when we are not selfish and learn to say, 'Thank you' ... and when one realises they have done something wrong and knows how to say 'Sorry', in that family there is peace and joy."

Pope Francis

Double House Points: Well done to **St Bernadette** and **St Anne Line** joint winners announced in Monday's assembly and also to **St Francis** our winners announced in today's assembly!

	Monday	Friday
St Bernadette –	196	108 points
St Francis –	126	143 points
St Paul –	131	136 points
St Theresa –	123	84 points
St Thomas More –	114	91 points
St Anne Line –	196	89 points



Double Pupils of the Week: Pupils who gained a certificate in assemblies this week are:

	Monday	Friday
Year R –	(Friday)	Stefani
Year 1 –	Corrine	Double next week
Year 2 –	Admirer	Kaira
Year 3 –	Nathan	Daniel T
Year 4 –	Chae	Archie
Year 5 –	Elizah	Milosz
Year 6 –	David	Bernise



Latest

Christmas Lunch Order: If your child would like a Christmas dinner on Wednesday 6th December please ensure you have pre-ordered this [here](#) before the deadline of Tuesday 21st November.

Reception 2024/2025 Applications: You can now apply online for your child's Reception school place. Information on this can be found [here](#) on the Essex website. Closing date for applications is 15th January 2024.

PGL 2024 Residential: Deposits need to be secured by Monday 20th November.

Cold weather: Please make sure all children have suitable outdoor coats, hats, gloves, scarves as the weather gets colder. The children are outside for some time at lunch and need to stay warm.

Attendance: The Academy is continuously focusing on attendance and punctuality. We expect children's attendance to be above 97% for the academic year. You can check your child's attendance on their Arbor profile, and we've attached a useful poster for reference.

Text Messages: Please do not respond or send text messages to the school as these are not received. Please communicate with the school office via email, phone, or voicemail. Thank-you.

Presentation of Children: Please take a moment to refresh with school policies on Uniform, Jewellery, Crazes/Fads/Fashions located in our [parent handbook](#).

Tech Tips

E-Safety: As part of antibullying week we share an article from Report Harmful Content that has a useful visual guide for how to report online bullying. This [guide is for parents](#) to use to support their child.

Medical

Should I Keep My Child of School? Please see attached poster with information on when to keep your child home. Further details can be found [here on the NHS website](#).

Child Health Matters: Our local NHS has created a free [Childrens Health Matters guide](#) for parents and carers. It explains how to treat children at home, when to see a GP or call 111, and when you should seek emergency help.

Catholic Community

Wednesday Word – Please find attached the Wednesday Word which is an invitation to share this week's Gospel at home as a family. We hope to send this out now each week.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society: BCCS have a lovely selection of religious themed Christmas Cards in stock for purchase to aid with their fundraising. An order form is attached for your perusal and all information can be found on their [website](#).

Community

Harlow Homework Club: Using games the whole family can get involved in, these fun and interactive tutor led sessions are designed to make learning fun and give you and your child skills to use at home! These **free sessions** run on a Wednesday 15:30-17:15 [require booking](#).

ACL Essex is Essex County Council's provider of adult and family learning across Essex. They offer FREE courses for parents, carers, grandparents across Essex. More information can be found [here](#).

They are also running a number of Christmas courses, information on these can be found [here](#).

School Life

Dinner Menu: Next week (w/c Monday 20th November) we will be on Week 1 of the Winter Menu, located [here](#) on the school website.

Facebook: [St Alban's Catholic Academy](#) has their own official Facebook page.

Key Dates: Please remember to keep check of the upcoming dates link in this newsletter which advises dates for all the key events we have planned for this academic year. [Click here for St Alban's Key Dates 23-24](#)

Gate Opening Times:

8:40am – 8.55am - After this time, your child will be marked as late.
3.05pm – Pre School sessions finish
3.15pm – End of the school day

